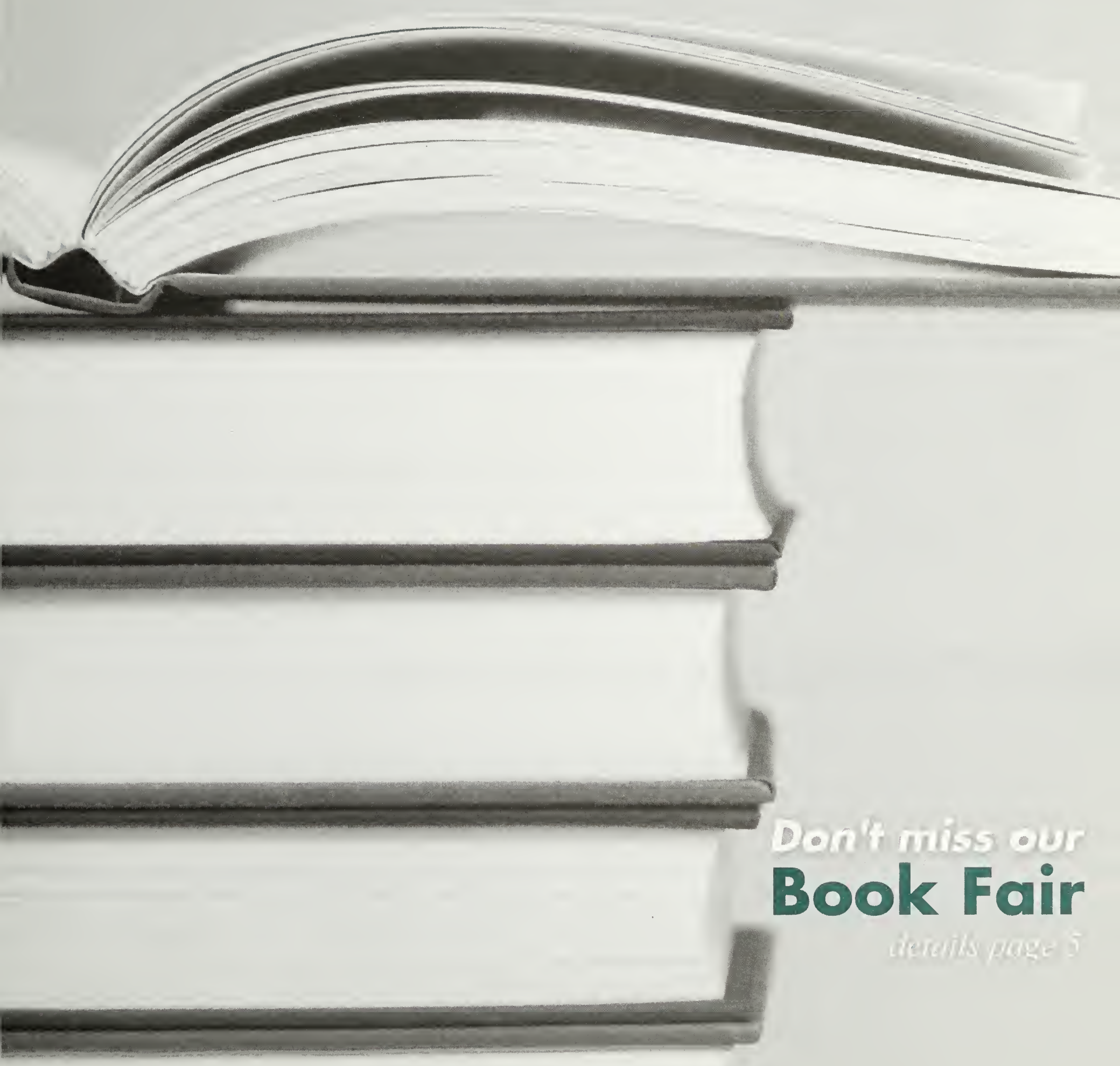


Park Avenue Synagogue Bulletin

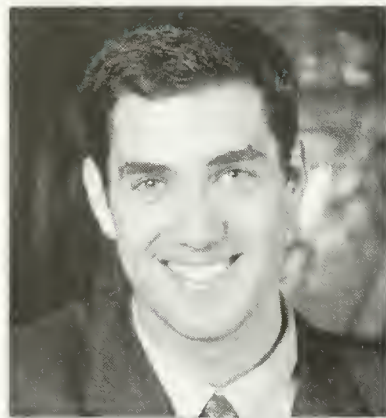
NOVEMBER 2008

Volume 61 | N°. 3 | Cheshvan/Kislev 5769



Don't miss our
Book Fair
details page 5

For Jews both books and people are of supreme value.



Books and Men

In a wonderful essay with the title “Books and Men,” Martin Buber proposes the following test: “Imagine yourself in a situation where you are alone, wholly alone on earth, and you are offered one of the two, books or men.” Buber debates the relative merits of the two, musing on which has greater intrinsic value and which he loves more. He explains that while both have obvious advantages, so too each has its disadvantages. Ultimately, Buber opts for the latter, concluding “I knew nothing of books when I came forth from the womb of my mother, and I shall die without books, with another human hand in my own. I do, indeed close my

door at times and surrender myself to a book, but only because I can open the door again and see a human being looking at me.”

What would your answer be to the question? If wholly alone in this world which would you choose? As long as there has been a Judaism, there has been a jockeying for position between the inspiration derived from books and that from our fellow human beings. We are, after all, a “people of the book,” a people whose identity took shape upon the giving of a text. And yet at the very heart of that Book lies the calling to all of humanity, the commandment “to love your neighbor as yourself.” There is no easy way out of Buber’s question. For Jews both books and people are of supreme value.

Ultimately, of course, we know that it is not an either / or proposition. Books and humanity are not at odds with each other, rather one illuminates the other. Perhaps this is why Buber titled his essay “Books and Men,” rather than “Books or Men.” We need both to survive this world and we need to experience them at one and the same time. A book only acquires meaning when read through the prism of our own humanity. Anyone who has been part of a

book club, or studied a Jewish text with a *chevruta* (study partner) knows the value of sharing a text with other people. Study occurring in dialogue with others is the highest form of Jewish dialogue. Every human soul bears the potential to sharpen our understanding of the texts of our tradition.

November marks the big kick-off of our fall adult learning. In addition to the ongoing classes that Rabbi Graetz and I teach, a series of new courses will be offered during the day, evening, in the building and midtown. Whether you are interested in sharpening your Hebrew reading, learning about the holidays or studying biblical or philosophical texts—there is something for everyone. More than the topics and teachers, of course, is the opportunity to build community. There is no better way to meet fellow congregants than to take a class while learning about our sacred heritage. So too, signing up for a class is probably the best way to get to know the Jewish educators of Park Avenue (myself included). Let’s start the new year right with a commitment both to books and men (and women!) by signing up for one of the many exciting opportunities in Jewish Learning.

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INSERT: Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day 2008 Guide

"May this synagogue be, for all who enter, the doorway to a richer and more meaningful life."

On behalf on the Board of Trustees of your synagogue, I hope each of you found the High Holy Day services inspiring and meaningful and that they will lead you to a year of health, happiness, and peace. I know the clergy devoted substantial time in preparation and we all owe them our heartfelt gratitude.

One prayer that was recited from our holiday *machzor* begins with: *"May the door of this synagogue be wide enough to receive all who hunger for love, all who are lonely for fellowship. May it welcome all who have cares to unburden, thanks to express, hopes to nurture...."* and ends with: *"May this synagogue be, for all who enter, the doorway to a richer and more meaningful life."*

This prayer captures what your clergy, administrative leadership, and Board of Directors hope to accomplish each and every day at Park Avenue Synagogue regarding all aspects of synagogue life. We strive at every service—daily minyan, Shabbat, and all of the holidays throughout the year—to encourage a moment of inspiration, learning, quiet contemplation, reflection, or simply prayer by yourself with your family and friends.

We aspire to always provide comfort for those in times of need and share in the many joys of life. We endeavor to educate

our young children in a warm and caring environment and hope to inspire our older students to make Judaism part of their lives as they leave our school. The Life-long Learning efforts include attractive continuing Jewish education offerings for all adults. Events have been planned for weekdays and evenings to make learning accessible to many, covering a wide spectrum of Jewish thought, heritage, culture or religious practice and to interact with Rabbi Cosgrove and with fellow members of our community.

Our Membership Committee and all of the Arms, managed by capable and devoted congregants, will assure that every member will have the opportunity to meet Rabbi Cosgrove in smaller settings as part of our "Meet our Rabbi" effort over the course of the year.

Above all, our objective for this year is that we want every one of our congregants to feel that Park Avenue Synagogue is his or her synagogue and that each member will proudly say, "Rabbi Cosgrove is my Rabbi." So in the weeks and months ahead I encourage everyone to take a class, attend a service, or drop in on a community event. Rabbi Cosgrove, the staff, and many volunteers have worked so diligently to plan an exciting year of programs for members of all ages and interests.

As you heard from Brian Lustbader and me on *Kol Nidre* evening, and as you know from our mailing, this is the



time of year when we ask for your generous support that allows the clergy and staff to fulfill all of our aspirations for Park Avenue Synagogue. As we have told you, dues provide approximately 36% of our budgeted revenues, so we rely substantially on our annual *Kol Nidre* appeal for financial strength.

While we do our best to control expenses while maintaining our facilities we need you to please show your support to our clergy and educators and express your faith in our future and to be as generous as you can be.

For those of you who have already participated—thank you. For those who are still considering a gift, please help us create a synagogue that fulfills the prayer from our *machzor*.

Thank you all for being part of the Park Avenue Synagogue community.

שמחה

Celebrating a *Simcha*? A birthday, anniversary, engagement, wedding, new grandchild, or anything else for which you are grateful? Sponsor a breakfast Kiddush any weekday after our Morning Minyan.

Contact Lynn Schneider at the synagogue for more information, 212-369-2600 or lschneider@pasyn.org.

Schedule of Religious Services

Saturday, November 1 Cheshvan 3

Parashat Noach

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

Bat Mitzvah of Anabelle Kleinberg,
daughter of Marcia Sherill and William Kleinberg

9:30 am Havurah Service

10:15 am Jr. Congregation

10:15 am Pre-K Shabbat Service

10:15 am Nitzanim Service

5:50 pm Mincha

Friday, November 7 Cheshvan 9

Candle lighting: 4:27 pm

5:15 pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat

6:15 pm Friday Night Special Musical
Shabbat Service

7:15 pm Shabbat Dinner and speaker

A Historian's View of Election 2008 \$ ©

Saturday, November 8 Cheshvan 10

Parashat Lech-Lecha

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

10:15 am Jr. Congregation

11:15 am Tot Shabbat

4:45 pm Mincha

Friday, November 14 Cheshvan 16

Candle lighting: 4:20 pm

6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

CS Service and Dinner

Saturday, November 15 Cheshvan 17

Parashat Vayera

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

9:30 am Havurah Service

10:00 am Shabbat B'yachad

4:35 pm Mincha

5:00 pm Pajama Havdalah

Friday, November 21 Cheshvan 23

Candle lighting: 4:15 pm

6:15 pm Friday Night Special Musical
Shabbat Service

Children's Birthday Service

Saturday, November 22 Cheshvan 24

Parashat Chayei Sara

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

Bar Mitzvah of Alexander Fisher,
son of Vivian and Edward Fisher

10:15 am Jr. Congregation

11:15 am Tot Shabbat

4:30 pm Mincha

Sunday, November 23 Cheshvan 25

Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day

Friday, November 28 Kislev 1

Rosh Chodesh Kislev

Candle lighting: 4:12 pm

6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, November 29 Kislev 2

Parashat Toldot

No CS

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

Bar Mitzvah of Josh Rosenblatt,
son of Barbara Goodstein and Robert Rosenblatt

College Service

4:30 pm Mincha

RABBI ELLIOT J. COSGROVE AND RABBI MICHAEL J. GRAETZ WILL PREACH AND CONDUCT THE SERVICES TOGETHER WITH
CANTOR DAVID LEFKOWITZ AND CANTOR NANCY ABRAMSON AND THE SYNAGOGUE CHOIR, WITH NEIL ROBINSON AT THE ORGAN.

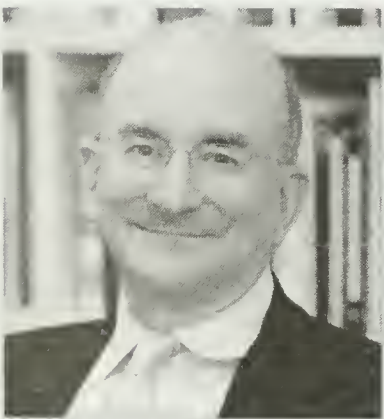
ANY CHANGES ARE NOTED WHEN THEY OCCUR

Daily Minyanim Monday–Friday at 7:15 am; Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9:00 am.

Mincha Sunday–Thursday at 5:45 pm; Saturdays as noted.

Hashkama Saturdays and Yom Tov at 7:30 am.

Information is subject to change. Confirm at www.pasyn.org or with the Synagogue office.



Shabbat Dinner Series #1

A Historian's View of Election 2008 | Speaker: Dr. Alan Brinkley

Friday, November 7 | following 6:15 pm Service | \$ ©

DR. ALAN BRINKLEY, a native of Washington, D.C., was educated at Princeton and at Harvard, where he received his Ph.D. in history in 1979. He is an member of the faculty of Columbia University. Among his publications are "Voices of Protest: Huey Long, Father Coughlin, and the Great Depression" (Knopf, 1982), which won the 1983 National Book Award; "The End of Reform: New Deal Liberalism in Recession and War" (Knopf, 1995); and "Liberalism and Its Discontents" (Harvard, 1998)."

\$ © **Reservations required for dinner.** \$35/person.

Contact Sarah Gribetz at sgribetz@pasyn.org or 212-369-2600 ext. 142.

Our Shabbat Dinner Series provides congregants with an opportunity to join together for a Musical Kabbalat Shabbat, to share a Shabbat meal as a community and to hear from noted scholars and rabbis on topics of interest.

Park Avenue Synagogue Friends of JTS: Home Study

Thursday, November 6 | 7:30 pm | ④

The topic for our first home study program for 5769 is "The Mitzvah of Kashrut" led by Rabbi Marc Wolf of The Jewish Theological Seminary. The session will be held at the home of Wendy and Howard Slavin

© **Please R.S.V.P.** by October 31st to Wendysaex@aol.com or call Lynn Schneider (212) 369-2600 ext. 105. The Slavins' address will be given to those who R.S.V.P.

Your word is a lamp to my feet,
a light for my path. —Psalm 119:105



Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique

Monday, November 10 | 10:00 am-6:00 pm

Tuesday, November 11 | 10:00 am-6:00 pm

Wednesday, November 12 | 10:00 am-6:00 pm

Thursday, November 13 | 10:00 am-6:00 pm

The Park Avenue Synagogue Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique is coming soon! The Book Fair kicks off with a lovely Reception for New Members on the night of Monday November 10. You can look forward to plenty of surprises this year, including author visits and more! There will be a wonderful assortment of books to choose from as well as a fantastic array of gifts from the Hanukkah Boutique. Please stop by. All students from the Early Childhood Center as well as the Congregational School will have an opportunity to come down as well.



Voices of our People Concert

Sunday, November 2 | 7:00 pm

Masorti Olami—the World Council of Conservative Synagogues and the Cantors Assembly invite you to an evening of tribute concert, "Voices of Our People." Held at Park Avenue Synagogue, this concert will honor Rabbi David Lincoln, Cantor Alberto Mizrahi and Dr. Ismar Schorsch, and will feature Cantor Mizrahi and our own cantors, David Lefkowitz and Nancy Abramson.

For tickets call 212-280-6039.



"[In days] to come Jacob shall strike root,
Israel shall sprout and blossom,
And the face of the world
Shall be covered with fruit."
—Isaiah 27:6

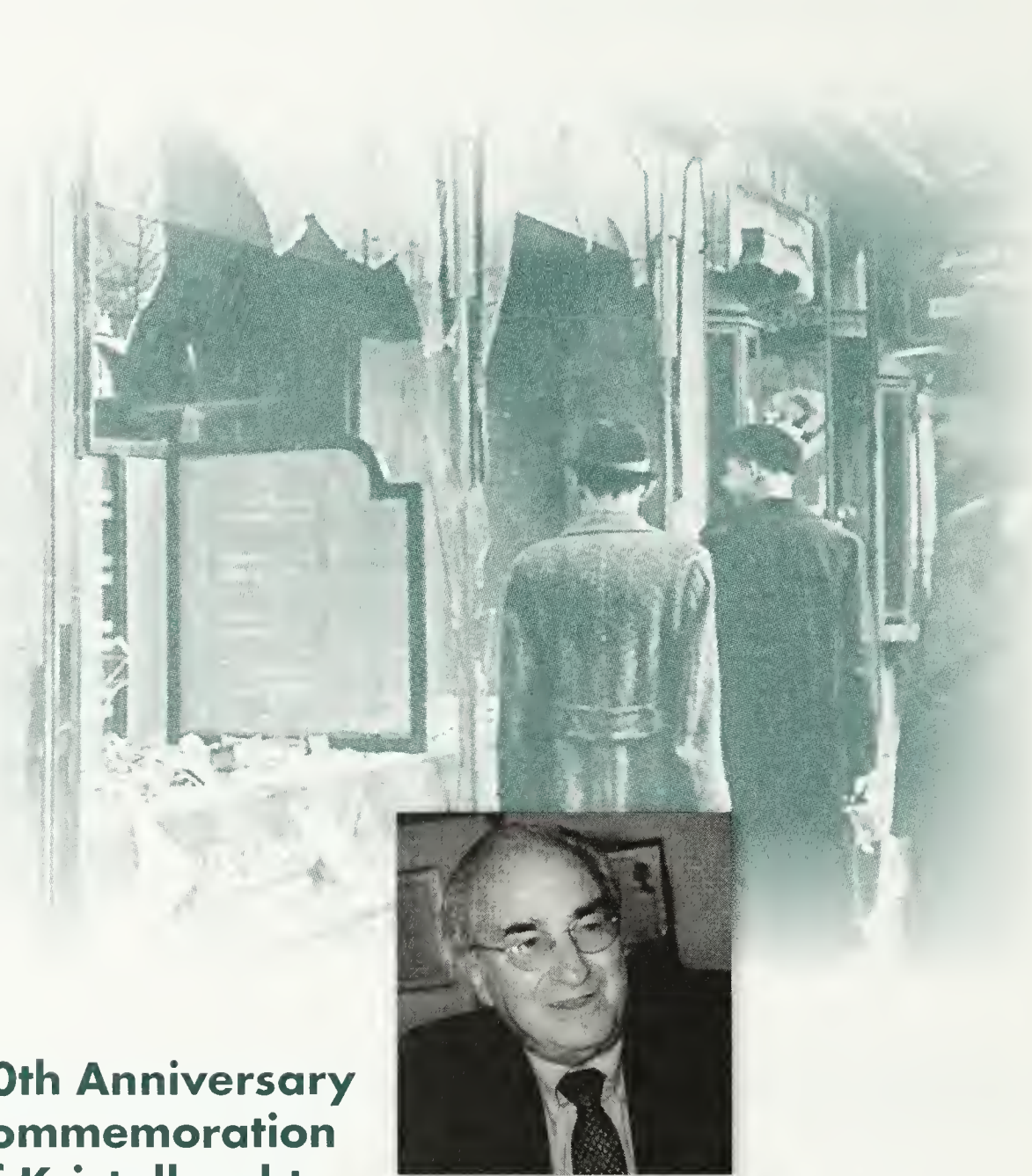
New Exhibition

"God's Vase"

Photographs by
Rabbi Michael Graetz

Magnificent flowers in the Negev, Israel's desert? The intricate beauty of wild flowers attests to the glory of creation. Rabbi Michael Graetz imagines the Negev in the winter as "God's vase", in which are displayed the color and the delicate beauty of the world of flowers.

Every year after the winter rains begin, the dry desert sand region of the Negev turns into a veritable "vase of flowers." Not only do these flowers suddenly appear, but many of them appear only in a particular place. In order to see these flowers and appreciate their grandeur and simple beauty, one must go to them where they are. Rabbi Graetz has photographed these beautiful and rare specimens for many years; this is our opportunity to partake of their splendor.



70th Anniversary Commemoration of Kristallnacht

Featured speaker: Ernest W. Michel

Wednesday, November 12

6:00 pm | Conversation with high school students & parents

7:15 pm | Memorial observance, book reading and presentation

ERNEST W. MICHEL, a German-born Holocaust survivor, was a 15-year-old witness to the events of Kristallnacht, 1938. Not long after his escape from a Nazi death march he became a journalist covering the Nuremberg war crimes trials. He went on to become the Executive Vice President of UJA-Federation of New York and the author of two critically acclaimed books, "Promises to Keep" and "Promises Kept."

"God's Vase" Opening Reception | Thursday, November 20 | 6:30–9:30 pm

Located on the second floor mezzanine, the P.A.S. Gallery was established to enhance our understanding and appreciation of Jewish rituals and traditions through the arts. A rotating series of exhibits bring both established and new artists to the community as well as highlights of our permanent collection of Judaica and Israeli art. Open to the public, please stop by and visit.



Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day 2008: *Leading as a Community*

Sunday, November 23

Join the Park Avenue Synagogue community in celebrating Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day. Bring your family and friends to perform good deeds to benefit those in need, both locally and in Israel. You and your family will be able to participate in many engaging and rewarding activities, including several new programs, and have the opportunity to meet with and hear from our new rabbis.

We are also asking you to clean out your closets...we will be collecting goods to donate to various charitable organizations. Please start to gather men's, women's and children's clothing in good condition, coats and accessories, foot wear, formal wear, toys, sporting goods, cell phones, eye glasses, housewares, CDs and videos and bric-a-brac. Donations must be in very good or new condition.

As always, participants can choose from a number of diverse offerings, including insightful discussions with our clergy and staff, numerous craft projects to benefit families in need, donating blood, making sandwiches and more.

Watch your mail and please check www.pasyn.org for more details.

To volunteer contact Marlene Muskin at ids52@aol.com or Erica Choset at ericachoset@gmail.com. See the insert in this issue for participation suggestions.



Save the Date

P.A.S. Gala

Saturday, February 28, 2009

7:30 pm Cocktails

8:30 pm Dinner Dance

The Starlight Roof,

The Waldorf Astoria Hotel

Honoring past Chairman Amy A.B. Bressman and Celebrating our Community. It is not too late for you to join the Gala Committee—have fun and be part of the party action.

Contact:

Marcia Eppler Colvin,

at mecolvin@aol.com or

1-917-923-2436;

or Lynn Halbfinger,

at lmhalb@aol.com;

or Nancy Hirschltritt

at hirschltrittn@njafedny.org;

or Lynn Schneider

at 212-369-2600.

Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day Donations

Wednesday, November 19 | 8:00 am-6:00 pm

Thursday November 20 | 8:00 am-6:00 pm

Friday, November 21 | 8:00 am-12:00 noon

Donations of books, adult, children and infant clothing, coats, jewelry, non-perishable food, canned goods, sporting goods, coins and bric-a-brac will be welcomed for distribution on Mitzvah Day. *Help receive and sort on those days. Help sell or come buy on Mitzvah Day!*

Arms' and Committees' Programs and Events

P.A.S. Singles Committee

Park Avenue Synagogue Singles is the ★★½ rated Manhattan Jewish experience, where 200-500 successful singles 40+ meet other successful people. People are meeting and creating new relationships and having a great time. We hope to see you and your

friends (married couples bring your single friends) at our Hanukkah event in December.

Check **P.A.S. Singles** on the P.A.S. website for up-to-the-minute details of this and all future events 2008-2009.



Sisterhood

Daytime Book Discussion Group | Monday, November 10 | 11:00 am

Join us in the Rothschild Library for a discussion of "Maus," Volumes I and II, by Art Spiegelman. This highly original work contains a memoir of the experiences of Spiegelman's father during the Holocaust and an account of Spiegelman's attempt to come to terms with his father's story. Both volumes were acclaimed by critics as masterpieces. Come have coffee and cake with us, and exchange ideas about this fascinating work.

For a complete reading list and a schedule of meetings, please call Dr. Renee Waldinger at 212-860-4308. All are welcome to this group.

Yiddish Club | Tuesday, November 11 | 1:00 pm

The Yiddish Club will hold its monthly meeting in the Rothschild Library. Coffee and cake will be served. Join us for Yiddish conversation and Yiddish culture—poetry, stories, music, theater, and film. Even if your Yiddish is very rusty, don't hesitate to come.

For more information and a schedule of meetings, please call Florence Solomon at 212-369-3856.

Visit to the Museum of the City of New York | Exhibition: Paris/New York: Design, Fashion, Culture, (1925-1940)

Thursday, November 13 | 1:00 pm | \$ ①

The 1920s and 1930s were a time of great innovation in the arts and fashions in Paris and New York. Through never-before exhibited drawings, furnishings, decorative arts objects, photographs, costumes, and much more, the Museum of the City of New York examines the styles of this period and some of the leading figures in arts and fashion, such as Helena Rubenstein, Coco Chanel, Salvador Dali, and Josephine Baker. Join Sisterhood for a guided tour of this exhibition. All members of P.A.S. are welcome.

\$ ① **Please R.S.V.P.** to Helene Agress at 212-362-1233 by November 10. The cost is \$5 for seniors and \$9 for non-seniors. The museum is located at Fifth Avenue and 103rd Street. Meet the Sisterhood group in the lobby of the museum at 12:45 pm. Do not pay at the admissions desk. A member of the Sisterhood will collect the admission fees.

Join Sisterhood! We offer a rich and varied program of educational, cultural and social activities. We are warm and friendly and welcome new people. To become a member of the Sisterhood, please send us a check for \$45 made out to: Sisterhood, Park Avenue Synagogue.

WEG

WEG Program Celebrates Jewish Book Month

Thursday, November 20 | 7:30 pm

In celebration of Jewish Book Month, Women's Evening Group invites its members and the congregation (both men and women) to meet author Lisa Kogen. Light refreshments precede the formal presentation which begins at 8:00 pm.

LISA KOGEN is the National Education Director of Women's League for Conservative Judaism. She will discuss her recently published and acclaimed book, "With Strength and Splendor," which is an expansion of an exhibit, 'Beauty, Brains & Brawn: The New World Balabuste,' she created four years ago for Women's League, to commemorate the 350th anniversary of Jews in North America.

Lisa is a compelling speaker and original thinker. This book honors courageous and original women, each of whom uniquely affected Jewish and American history and culture. Books will be available at our Book Fair at a booth manned by WEG VP for Program, Linda Klempner, and after the formal presentation. The author will gladly sign all copies of her book after her talk.

The Secret Exposed—**age is not a factor in Women's Evening Group.** WEG is a community of women of all ages and interests, and what makes the group so interesting and exciting is the generational mix of women in their 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s, and 70s. All women of the congregation received an invitation to join WEG. Included with the mailing was a Fact Sheet, giving members the opportunity to sign up for committee(s) as well as to express ideas/opinions on desired programs, events and activities. And there are membership perks! The WEG Button; member-only events; new friends; plus, plus, plus. **Act today!!**

To join, just send a check for \$50 made payable to 'Women's Evening Group' (includes membership in Women's League for Conservative Judaism), and send to Park Avenue Synagogue, Attention: WEG, 50 East 87th St., New York, NY 10128.

Young Couples Group

A Great Start to the Year! On September 10, the Young Couples Group held its most successful opening cocktail party yet. Hosted by new members Amy and Todd Zipper on the beautiful roof deck of their apartment building with panoramic views of the city, we had over 100 people in attendance. It was a wonderful evening filled with new and old friends and an abundance of energy. Our special guests of the evening, Rabbi Cosgrove and his wife Debbie, brought a lot of excitement to the crowd. Amy Zipper introduced the Rabbi to the group and the Rabbi gave an inspiring message regarding how impressed he was with Young Couples and some of the many possibilities in store for the future. We can't wait!

Please join us at our next events:

Family Friendly Shabbat Dinner | Friday, December 5 | 5:00 pm | \$ ⑥

The Young Couples Group invites all families with young children (babies, toddlers, elementary) to join this Shabbat evening full of food and fun.

We will start with the Tot Kabbalat Shabbat service at 5:00 pm followed by a family-friendly dinner. YCG Members, \$42, Non-Members \$50, Children \$25, and children under 1, free.

To R.S.V.P. or for more information, please contact event co-chairs Lauren Firstenberg (laurenfirstenberg@yahoo.com), Emily Gindi (emily.gindi@gmail.com) or Amy Steiner (amy.steiner@yahoo.com).

Latke and Vodka Party | Wednesday, December 10 | 7:30 pm

Contact lizzymarkus@nyc.rr.com or leighbait@aol.com. Pricing and details TBA.

Save the Date: Shabbat Dinner Series #2

"Tradition and Change at 50" | Speaker: Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove

Friday, December 12 | following 6:15 pm Service | \$ ⑥

The defining book of the Conservative Movement, "Tradition and Change," edited by Mordecai Waxman, was published in 1958. As the book turns 50 we will examine how, and if, it continues to resonate today, in the 21st century. The book will be distributed to those registered for the dinner. Rabbi Cosgrove will lead a course in the winter to further delve into this topic.

\$ ⑥ Reservations required for dinner. \$35/person.

Contact Sarah Gribetz at sgribetz@pasyn.org or 212-369-2600 ext. 142.

Our Shabbat Dinner Series provides congregants with an opportunity to join together for a Musical Kabbalat Shabbat, to share a Shabbat meal as a community and to hear from noted scholars and rabbis on topics of interest.

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(212) 722-4271

See our display in the lobby of P.A.S.



Anabelle Kleinberg | November 1

Anabelle's formal Jewish education began when she entered the *Gan* class in the P.A.S. Congregational School, and she is continuing her studies as a current student in the High School program.

As a Seventh Grader at The Hewitt School, Anabelle takes several advanced classes and serves as a member of the Math Team. She also loves to cook and has recently taken up yoga. Anabelle has a kind and compassionate spirit and has always shown a special dedication to helping those around her. She currently volunteers as a mentor to younger students and also enjoys working with the elderly in her community. She loves spending her summers at overnight camp and traveling to Georgia and Alabama, where she sees her many relatives and maintains her Southern roots.

Anabelle would like to extend a special thank you and heartfelt "*Todah Rabbah*" to her clergy and teachers for their support over the years and for preparing her to become a Bat Mitzvah.



Alexander Fisher | November 22

Alexander Max Fisher was born on November 6, 1995. He has an older sister Rebecca and a younger brother Oliver. He has been attending Park Avenue Synagogue since nursery school and now is a Seventh Grader at the Dalton School.

Alex is kind, caring, even-keeled, and confident. He has a contagious uplifting smile, he is good-natured, and he is always eager to help. He takes life seriously and enjoys all its offerings, and he is mature beyond his years. He is intelligent and independent, and he is up to any challenge. He is athletic, particularly enjoying lacrosse, sailing, and soccer. He loves summers at Camp Lenox, visiting grandparents in Rio de Janeiro, and time with family and friends.

We take this opportunity to thank the teachers and clergy of P.A.S. for the wonderful education they have afforded our children, and for helping to teach them the importance of religion, community, and family.



Josh Rosenblatt | November 29

Josh Rosenblatt is a great student and a tremendous athlete. He attends Columbia Prep on the Upper West Side where he is in the honors math program. Josh plays on multiple baseball teams during the fall and spring, and he plays football and skis in the winter.

Josh transferred to P.A.S. two years ago from another school, in order to get a rigorous Jewish education. He is very committed to Judaism, and has already been to Israel three times. This past summer, Josh had an early bar mitzvah event at the Kotel in Jerusalem. He read from the Torah and had a lunch afterward with 40 friends from Israel.

Josh will have another bar mitzvah here at P.A.S. in November. Josh is the grandson of a Holocaust survivor. He will be celebrating his bar mitzvah on Ellis Island—where his grandmother arrived in 1947.

Condolences

Park Avenue Synagogue extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved of our congregation and their families:

- Karen K. Cammaker, *on the loss of her mother, Dorothy Koven;*
- Florence K. Edelstein, *on the loss of her son, Jeffrey M. Edelstein;*
- Andrew Ferber, *on the loss of his mother, Beatrice Ferber;*
- Doris Greenberg, *on the loss of her husband, Charles Greenberg*
- Dr. Carin Lamm Gruenberger, *on the loss of her father, Jack Horowitz;*
- Barbara L. Kahn, *on the loss of her husband, Richard S. Kahn;*
- Rose Less, *on the loss of her sister, Frances Elias;*
- Rita Schneider, *on the loss of her brother, Stephen Rosenblum.*

Note: if you have family news to share with the congregation, please contact Lynn Schneider at 212-369-2600 or lschneider@pasyn.org.



Park Avenue Synagogue

Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day 2008 Guide

Join us Sunday, November 23!



Vicki K. Wimpfheimer

Vicki Wimpfheimer was a very special longtime member and supporter of P.A.S. and the embodiment of living a life of mitzvot.

When she was married at 22, to Dr. Seymour Wimpfheimer, Vicki joined her husband's family as P.A.S. members; for most of the next 70 years, she was an active member of the congregation and a proponent of Hebrew education at all levels; she helped to start the nursery school, and always worked for social justice. When she passed away, her five children and their families determined to keep her good works, her spirit, and her memory alive by endowing Mitzvah Day. Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day is the manifestation of the causes she was so involved with and stood for, according to her daughter, Doris Finkel, who is a member of the third generation of the family to belong to P.A.S. (Doris's children are the fourth generation). "We wanted to honor the way Mother worked in so many ways to improve the lives of congregants of all ages. Mitzvah Day, which she helped to start, is the perfect memorial."

Leading as a Community

On Sunday, November 23, P.A.S. will again offer every member of our congregation a variety of opportunities to do mitzvot. Organized by the *Tikkun Olam* Committee, this year's event promises to offer something for everyone.

Mitzvah Day will run from 9:00 am–2:00 pm.

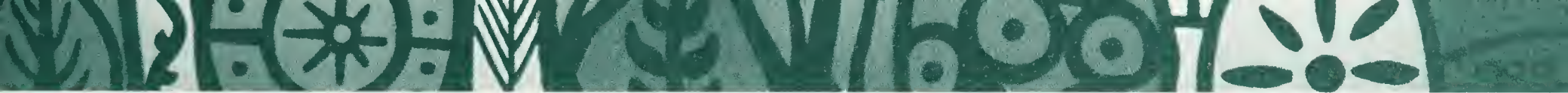
Morning Minyan is at 9:00 am;

activities will begin at 10:00 am.

We hope that you'll join us for this annual event.

Choose one project or several.

Put on casual clothes and come with your family and friends.



Activities	Time, Place	Ages
Daily Morning Minyan	9:00 am	All ages
Project Dignity <i>(Hosted by WEG)</i> Package toiletries for the clients of Yorkville Common Pantry.	10:00 am	All ages
Study Session With Rabbi Cosgrove	10:00 am	Adults and teens
Food Drive <i>(Hosted by Hebrew H.S.)</i> Donate, sort and canned food to be distributed by the High School Food Pantry.	10:00 am	All ages
Arts & Crafts <i>(Hosted by Men's Club)</i> Make a bookmark to be given to Project Ezra members at the Men's Club Hanukkah Party at P.A.S.	10:00 am, Lower Level	All ages
Arts & Crafts <i>(Hosted by Congregational School)</i> Make a Hanukkah card to send to Jewish soldiers abroad.	10:00 am, Lower Level	All ages
Stuff Toy Animals <i>(Hosted by Young Couples Group)</i> Cassidy's Place will distribute toys to medically fragile children.	10:00 am, Lower Level	All ages
Make Lap Blankets And Pillows <i>(Hosted by Sisterhood)</i> For the residents of the Jewish Home and Hospital to enjoy.	10:00 am, Lower Level	All ages
Toy Drive <i>(Hosted by Singles Club)</i> Bring in new toys and help wrap them. Toys will be distributed to children in need by the Yorkville Common Pantry.	10:00 am, Lower Level	All ages
Coin Rolling <i>(Hosted by WEG)</i> Bring in loose change and help roll coins to benefit the P.A.S. community.	10:00 am, Lower Level	All ages
Decorate Sandwich Bags <i>(Hosted by Young Couples Group)</i> to wrap sandwiches to be donated to Coalition for the Homeless.	10:00 am, Lower Level	All ages
Teach Your Children: Early Childhood Center Participate in activities designed to help young children understand and participate in acts of charity. Come explore and have fun while baking cookies and doing entertaining projects.	10:00 am–1:00 pm, 5th Floor	6 and under
Blood Drive <i>(Hosted by WEG)</i> Donating blood is a safe way to fulfill the mitzvah of saving a life. Pre-registration is requested but not required: call or e-mail Lucy Becker at 212-288-7522/lucyabecker@aol.com. Bring a photo ID and your Social Security Number with you.	10:00 am–3:00 pm, 3rd floor	Older teens and adults
Complete An Organ Donor Card <i>(Hosted by WEG)</i> Just fill out one of the cards available. "There is no greater <i>K'vod ha-Met</i> (honor to the deceased) than to bring healing to the living." —Rabbi Isaac Klein	10:00 am–3:00 pm, 3rd floor	Older teens and adults

list continues on back

Activities	Time, Place	Ages
Clothing Drive <i>(Hosted by Tikkun Olam)</i> Donate men's, women's and children's clothing, winter wear, coats, formal wear and accessories. Please only donate items in good condition. Help sort clothing to be distributed to several charities.	10:00 am–2:00 pm, Lower Level	All ages
Flea Market <i>(Hosted by Tikkun Olam)</i> Donate books, sporting goods, cell phones, eyeglasses, CDs/DVDs, videos, appliances, house wares, toys and bric-a-brac. No stuffed animals. Funds to benefit the P.A.S. Community.	10:00 am–2:00 pm, Lower Level	All ages
Arts & Crafts <i>(Hosted by Bikur Cholim)</i> Make birthday baskets to distribute to senior congregants	11:00 am, Lower Level	All ages
Make Sandwiches For The Needy <i>(Hosted by Young Couples Group)</i> Make sandwiches which will then be packed and donated to Coalition for the Homeless.	11:30 am, Lower Level	All ages
Pack Thanksgiving Bags <i>(Hosted by Hebrew H.S.)</i> Help the High School Pantry pack bags for their Thanksgiving meal distribution.	12:00 Noon, 3rd Floor	Preteens, teens and adults
Play Jeopardy With Ron Koas Have fun playing Jewish Jeopardy with friends!	12:00-12:45 pm	Congregational school
Tour Of P.A.S. with Cantor Lefkowitz Take a tour of our historic building and discover the behind-the-scenes secrets.	12:45-1:45 pm, meet in Lobby	All ages
A Visit To The Jewish Home and Hospital <i>(Hosted by Bikur Cholim and Life Long Learning)</i> Join Cantor Abramson, the <i>Bikur Cholim</i> and Life Long Learning Committees to sing songs and make someone's day. Meet at 1:45 in the Music Room (Room 210) to learn songs. Bus will depart from P.A.S. and return by 4:30 pm. Pre-registration is requested: call 369-2600 ext 120.	1:45-4:30 pm, Room 210	All ages
Clean Up With Refreshments Join your fellow congregants in preparing our bundles for pick up. Have a nosh too!	2:00 pm–5:00 pm, Lower Level	All ages

Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day Donations

Wednesday, November 19 | 8:00 am-6:00 pm

Thursday November 20 | 8:00 am-6:00 pm

Friday, November 21 | 8:00 am-12:00 noon

Sunday, November 23 | 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Donations of books, adult, children and infant clothing, coats, jewelry, non-perishable food, canned goods, sporting goods, coins and bric-a-brac will be welcomed for distribution on Mitzvah Day.

Help receive and sort on those days. Help sell or come buy on Mitzvah Day!

Park Avenue Synagogue warmly welcomes these new members to our congregational family:

Beth Aviv
Selda & Izzet Bensusan
Charlotte & David Blechman
Marie & Alain Boubilil
Geraldyn Lederman & Michael Chasen
Ryan Colbert
Nicole Speier & Lawrence Cyrilin
Cori & Jordan Finkelstein
Marjorie & Howard Goldschein
Allyson Gottlieb & Dr. Scott Gottlieb
Ira Greenblatt
Reby Gulcan
Janey & Arthur Hershaft
Michelle & Ronald Herzlinger
Alice Korngold & Prof. Gerald Korngold

Dr. Lisa Fishman & Mr. Sam Lehr
Michele & Jordan Malz
Hayley Friedman Morrison & Lawrence Morrison
Celia & Josef Najar
Jacqueline Grinberg & Daniel Nicolaievsky
Lisa & Richard Paige
Beth & Michael Pollak
Cindy Schneinerman & Dr. Jacob Scheinerman
Amy & Daniel Seltzer
Bonnie & David Silvera
Gayle & Howard Sobel
Rachel & Edmund Solarsh
Brett & Daniel Sundheim
Terry Dudnick Taffer
Nancy & Scott Weisberg

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove, Ph.D. Installed As Senior Rabbi

By Jean Bloch Rosensaft and Susan Brous Silverman, Installation Co-Chairs

At a memorable ceremony in a sanctuary filled to capacity with leaders of universities, seminaries, religious, civic, and professional organizations and congregants, and enriched by the music of Cantors David Lefkowitz and Nancy Abramson and the P.A.S. Congregational Singers, Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove was installed as Senior Rabbi.

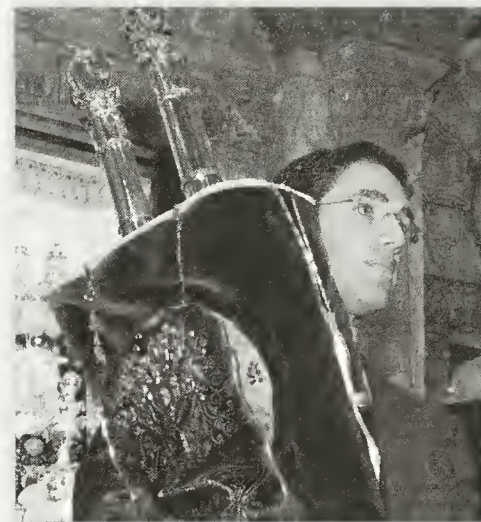
Rabbi Cosgrove was welcomed, lauded, and blessed by a series of inspiring speakers, beginning with Rabbi David Lincoln, who opened the program with his poetic invocation blessing. Steven M. Friedman, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, said, "Rabbi Cosgrove is a rabbi who is more than a Torah scholar or religious leader (and he certainly is both), but a rabbi who will be a role model for this community, living and exemplifying the values of our tradition and of this country." He assured the congregation that the rabbi will "be there for you in times of happiness and sadness."

Chancellor Arnold Eisen brought greetings from the Jewish Theological Seminary, saying, "Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove is a leader and thinker who is making an

impact on Judaism in America... (he) embraces both tradition and change, and will lead Park Avenue Synagogue to be a model community for the 21st century." Rabbi Michael Graetz's message of greetings from Israel was punctuated by the blowing of the shofar.

Dr. Paul Mendes-Flohr, Professor of Modern Jewish Thought in the Divinity School at the University of Chicago, and Rabbi Cosgrove's Ph.D. advisor and mentor, taught a text on Jewish Leadership drawn from Arthur A. Cohen's "The Jewish Intellectual in an Open Society," noting that "Rabbi Cosgrove embodies three key values of a leader: a wise scholar; a righteous, caring, and warm person; and a prophet with a deep moral passion."

The Charge to the new Rabbi was presented by Rabbi William H. Lebeau, who said, "Rabbi Cosgrove carries his title, Rabbi, with dignity and an appropriate balance of pride and humility. He has also learned an essential lesson. One does not become a rabbi at the moment of ordination at The Jewish Theological Seminary or even when elected to a rabbinic position. One becomes rabbi when congregants have learned enough Torah from him or her, found meaningful



comfort in the rabbi's presence in times of adversity and benefited from the enhancement the rabbi provides in joyous times to be moved to call him or her rabbi and really mean it... He is a scholar and already a respected leader of Conservative Judaism, but it is clear that he cannot find his spiritual sufficiency in isolation. He became a congregational rabbi because the essence of his religious life is being with community. He has found his community and partnership in this congregation."

The Installation Ceremony took place before the open Ark, as the 125th Anniversary Torah was passed from Rabbi Lincoln to Rabbi Graetz, Steven Friedman, Rabbi Lebeau, Rabbi Cosgrove, and Amy A.B. Bressman, past Chair of the Board of Trustees.

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The Joy of Learning

Ron Koas, Education Director

At the faculty orientation at the start of our new school year, I discussed a recent article by Professor Steven Wolk of Northeastern Illinois University. Entitled “Joy in School,” it describes how school should and can be a joyful experience. Wolk quotes John Dewey, who said “What avail is it to win prescribed amounts of information about geography and history, to win the ability to read and write, if in the process the individual loses his own soul?” As educators, it is our responsibility to ensure that school does not destroy a child’s spirit, curiosity, or sense of wonder.

Wolk claims that school should be a place where a child experiences joy. He does not use joy as a synonym for fun, however. Random House dictionary defines joy as “the emotion of great delight or happiness caused by something good or satisfying.” I hope that everyone at some time has experienced the joy that comes from learning. Often these joyful learning experiences occur outside of school: learning to ride a bike, play an instrument,

bake a cake, score a goal in soccer, etc. Wolk enumerates several ways to help increase the joy children experience at school. These include letting students create things, showing off their work, giving them choices within the structure of lessons, making school spaces inviting, transforming assessment methods, and others.

In presenting this article to teachers, I emphasized the fact that a major goal of the P.A.S. Congregational School is to ensure that our students find the pleasure in learning every time they come to class. A child who knows how to read Hebrew but hates coming to school is not a “success” to me. The child who rushes into class with a smile on his/her face and is motivated and excited about learning to read Hebrew is. And I am positive that the second child, who finds the pleasure in learning, will be successful in mastering the task. Wolk is right on target when he states that, “as educators we have the responsibility to educate and inspire the whole child—mind, heart, and soul.”

Town Hall Meeting for Day School Parents with Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove

Wednesday, November 5 | 7:00 pm | ☎

Share your hopes and dreams for how Park Avenue Synagogue can embrace your students and your families with programs, Shabbat and Holiday services, adult learning and more. If your child is enrolled in Ramaz, Heschel, Rodeph Shalom or the Solomon Schechter School of Manhattan—elementary and high school—we want to hear from you! Please join us for this opportunity for you to meet each other and share with Rabbi Cosgrove your vision of how P.A.S. can more widely open its doors to you and your family.

☎ **R.S.V.P.** to Liya at leidya@pasyn.org or 212-369-2600 ext. 122.

Do you know someone ill, elderly or homebound?

The P.A.S. **Bikur Cholim Caring Committee**—IN LOVING MEMORY OF *Dr. Albert and Phyllis L. Cornell*—reaches out to those in need through telephone calls, visits, and holiday packages. The Caring Committee is comprised of trained volunteers committed to providing confidential hands-on support and companionship to members of our congregation.

To arrange for this mitzvah, please call the Rabbi’s office at 212-369-2600 ext. 120.

November Children's and School Programs

Friday, November 7 | 5:15 pm | Tot Kabbalat Shabbat | Join us for Friday evening services for toddlers and children of pre-school age, parents, grandparents and friends.

Friday, November 14 | 6:15 pm | Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Dinner | For Grades Gan, Alef, Bet and Limud 1.

Saturday, November 15 | 5:00 pm | PJ Havdalah | A Havdalah service for pre-school-aged children. Come in pajamas for this service.

Friday, November 21 | 6:15 pm | November Birthday Celebration | Bring Shabbat into your children's lives by celebrating their birthdays at Park Avenue Synagogue. All children with November birthdays will be called up to the bimah and honored at our Birthday Celebration Service. Come as a family and celebrate. **Contact** Rabbi Graetz's office for more information.

Saturday, November 22 | 11:15 am-12:00 pm | Tot Shabbat | ENDOWED IN LOVING MEMORY OF *Lea Oberdorfer* | P.A.S. offers toddlers and preschoolers the wonderful opportunity to celebrate together with their parents, grandparents and friends on Shabbat.

Saturday, November 1 Cheshvan 3
Parashat Noach

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

9:30 am Havurah Service

10:15 am Jr. Congregation

10:15 am Pre-K Shabbat Service

10:15 am Nitzanim Service

(Four-year-olds from the nursery school are invited to join this service.)

Sunday, November 2 Cheshvan 4

7:00 pm Voices of our People Concert \$ ②

Tuesday, November 4 Cheshvan 6

Election Day

ECC Parent Conferences

No ECC School except Orange

No CS

Wednesday, November 5 Cheshvan 7

10:30 am Parenting Workshop

7:00 pm Town Hall/CS Parents

Friday, November 7 Cheshvan 9

5:15 pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat

6:15 pm Friday Night Special Musical
Shabbat Service

Saturday, November 8 Cheshvan 10

Parashat Lech-Lecha

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

10:15 am Jr. Congregation

11:15 am Tot Shabbat

Monday, November 10 Cheshvan 12

10:00 am Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique

6:00 pm ECC Parent Conferences:
Orange Purple

Tuesday, November 11 Cheshvan 13

Veterans Day

10:00 am Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique

Wednesday, November 12 Cheshvan 14

10:00 am Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique

10:30 am Parenting Workshop

6:00 pm HS conversation with
Ernest W. Michel

7:00 pm Kristallnacht Commemoration

Thursday, November 13 Cheshvan 15

10:00 am Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique

Friday, November 14 Cheshvan 16

6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

CS Service and Dinner

Saturday, November 15 Cheshvan 17

Parashat Vayera

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

9:30 am Havurah Service

10:00 am Shabbat B'yachad

5:00 pm Pajama Havdalah

Sunday, November 16 Cheshvan 18

11:00 am Kadima Program

11:00 am Ruach Program

4:00 pm Rosh Chodesh "It's a Girl Thing"

Monday, November 17 Cheshvan 19

Zayin t'fillin review during school hours

Wednesday, November 19 Cheshvan 21

Zayin t'fillin review during school hours

Mitzvah Day Clothing Collection

10:30 am Parenting Workshop

Thursday, November 20 Cheshvan 22

Mitzvah Day Clothing Collection

Friday, November 21 Cheshvan 23

Mitzvah Day Clothing Collection

6:15 pm Friday Night Special Musical
Shabbat Service

Children's Birthday Service

Saturday, November 22 Cheshvan 24

Parashat Chayei Sara

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

10:15 am Jr. Congregation

11:15 am Tot Shabbat

Sunday, November 23 Cheshvan 25

Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day

Wednesday, November 26 Cheshvan 28

No School

1:00 pm Office Closes

Thursday, November 27 Cheshvan 29

Thanksgiving

Offices Closed

No School

Friday, November 28 Kislev 1

Rosh Chodesh Kislev

6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, November 29 Kislev 2

Parashat Toldot

No CS

9:15 am Sanctuary Service

College Service



Israeli Film Series | "Blaumilch Canal" (1970) | Director, Efraim Kishon

Wednesday, November 19 | 7:00 pm

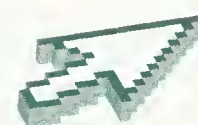
This story of a lunatic with an obsession for digging holes in the center of Tel Aviv is a noted satire on bureaucracy and was nominated for the Golden Globe for best foreign film. Though filmed in 1970, this classic remains an excellent commentary on modern day Israel and allows us to celebrate Efraim Kishon, one of Israel's greatest talents.



Evening Book Discussion Group | Monday, November 24 | 8:00 pm

The Evening Book Discussion Group meets monthly on Monday nights for thoughtful discussion of significant and interesting books. All are welcome to join and participate. This month, we will have read and will be discussing, "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks, who won a Pulitzer Prize for her previous book. In this fascinating story, the Sarajevo Haggadah, which had disappeared in 1992 was found, and the UN has asked an Australian rare book conservator to work on it. The fascinating story includes a romance with a Muslim librarian, Sarajevo in 1940, and Seville in 1480.

For more information, contact group leader Pat Davidson at alpat1120@aol.com.



Suggestions from Rabbi Michael Graetz regarding On-Line Learning:

One important Masorti (Conservative) website is that of the World Masorti organizations. This can be found at: www.masortiworld.org. You can find out about Masorti Olami, the synagogue organization around the world, not including North America and Israel; Mercaz, the Zionist action arm of Masorti, and other groups in countries around the world. The link to "Masorti learning opportunities" is particularly interesting. Take your time to learn about the efforts of people all over the world to build Conservative Jewish life.

Adult Education

Tuesday Night is Torah Study | \$ ②

Four Tuesdays in November: November 4, 11, 18 & 25. Registration required. \$50/member; \$75/non member for series.

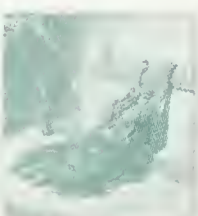
\$ ② **To register,** contact Sarah Gribetz at sgribetz@pasyn.org or ext. 142.



In The Beginning: The Book of Genesis | Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove, instructor

Tuesday, November 4, 11, 18 & 25 | 6:30-7:30 pm | \$ ②

Join Rabbi Cosgrove as we explore familiar texts through new eyes! In this class we will consider several key narratives of the Book of Genesis and how they illumine the tensions that face human beings past, present and future. Our discussions will be enriched by drawing on traditional commentaries, modern interpretations and our own insights



Judge, Prophet and Queens: Women as Leaders in the Bible | Naomi Graetz, instructor

Tuesday, November 4, 11, 18 & 25 | 7:30-8:30 pm | \$ ②

Why are women in leadership roles mistrusted? There was a tradition of women featured on the biblical stage in bit and leading roles: such as Deborah the Judge, Miriam the Prophet, and the Queens, Vashti, Jezebel, Athaliah. Yet the midrash depicts these women as usurpers of male prerogatives, citing verses such as "And HE shall rule over her" from Genesis 3:15. Often they are demonized, sometimes they are treated sympathetically. But there is a general consensus that the "natural order" is that man is the leader, protector, and provider; woman the helper, life-giver, and nurturer. In the four week series we will examine the biblical stories and the midrash from a feminist perspective.

NAOMI GRAETZ, who teaches at Ben Gurion University is the author of "S/He Created Them: Feminist Retellings of Biblical Stories;" "Unlocking the Garden: A Feminist Jewish Look at the Bible, Midrash and God;" "Silence is Deadly: Judaism Confronts Wifebeating" and a mystery novel, "The Rabbi's Wife Plays a Murder."

Daytime Study Opportunities



Parenting Through A Jewish Lens | Sarah Gribetz and Dina Mann, instructors

Nine Wednesdays, November 5, 12, 19; January 7, 14, 21; February 25; March 4, 11 | **10:30–11:30 am**

The joys, delights and challenges of raising a child in the 21st century will be discussed and explored through modern child development theory combined with the rich history of rabbinic and traditional Jewish texts to provide parents of children of varying ages a context to raise strongly identified Jewish families. All levels of background welcome.



Can the State of Israel Survive Judaism? | Rabbi Michael Graetz, instructor

Three Thursdays, November 6, 13, 20 | **12:30–1:30 pm** | ©

Midtown Lunch 'n' Learn for working congregants. Reflections on the relationships between Judaism and the State in the past and towards the future will be explored. We will consider essential questions concerning Israel at 60. Rabbi Graetz will analyze the present and future challengers to Judaism, the Jewish People and the State of Israel.

© No charge. Registration required with Sarah Gribetz at sgribetz@pasyn.org or 212-369-2600 ext.142. Location will be shared with those registered.

Ongoing Classes no pre-registration necessary



Essential Essays | Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove, instructor | Tuesday mornings | 8:00–8:45 am

Join us to discuss essays on Jewish philosophy, theology and thought. Essays are available for pick-up in the flyer rack near the front desk.



Jewish Thought in Our Day | Rabbi Michael Graetz, instructor | Tuesdays | 11:00 am

We will read and discuss short essays which focus on Jewish thought and theology in our days. These will be contemporary writers about the philosophy and religious approaches of Jews in the 21st century.



Mishnah Musings | Rabbi Michael Graetz, instructor | Thursday mornings | 8:00–8:45 am

Join us to discuss the most basic text of Jewish practice, the Mishnah. We will explore the philosophy of Jewish religious life as expressed in the second most important book in Jewish religion after the Bible. Study sheets are available in the flyer rack near the front desk.



Lunch 'n' Learn | Thursdays | 11:00 am–1:00 pm

A great way to meet others and share a learning experience with fellow congregants and the synagogue's professional leadership. Topics, presented by members of our Clergy and Education staff, are varied and lend themselves to stimulating discussion and study. Join us anytime, bring a friend and a kosher dairy lunch (coffee will be served).

P.A.S Is Just a *Klik* Away



Park Avenue Synagogue's website, www.pasyn.org has the latest news, events, and times for any synagogue-related activity. And it also has lots of information about classes, programs, events, people, organizations, and meetings. Transcripts of Shabbat sermons are also available.

Sign up for e-mail notifications! Communicate with clergy and staff!



Learn Hebrew on Mondays | \$ ☺

Trimester 1 (*Fall*) | **October 27–December 15**

Trimester 2 (*Winter*) | **January 5–March 16**

Trimester 3 (*Spring*) | **March 23–May 11**

Siddur (Prayer Book) Hebrew

Siddur Hebrew is geared for students interested in developing their proficiency in our prayer services—whether the daily Minyan, Shabbat or holidays.

Siddur (Prayer Book) Hebrew/Beginner | **Dina Mann, instructor** | **Mondays** | **6:30–7:30 pm**

No prior knowledge of Hebrew necessary. Introduction to the alphabet and basic reading skills with an emphasis on prayer book Hebrew.

Siddur (Prayer Book) Hebrew/Intermediate | **Sarah Gribetz, instructor** | **Mondays** | **6:30–7:30 pm**

Selected prayers from the daily, Shabbat and holiday services are explored for their meaning as well as increased proficiency in reading. Newcomers welcome.

Conversational Hebrew

Conversational Hebrew is intended for those students interested in Hebrew as a modern language. Courses focus on spoken Hebrew, with an emphasis on grammar and oral skills. Reading and writing are also addressed.

Conversational Hebrew/Beginner | **Andi Meiseles, instructor** | **Mondays** | **7:30–8:30 pm**

No prior knowledge required. Reading, writing and speaking skills will be introduced in a fun and relaxing environment.

Conversational Hebrew/Intermediate | **Andi Meiseles, instructor** | **Mondays** | **6:30–7:30 pm**

Reading, speaking, grammar, writing and increased proficiency are the goals of this class. Newcomers welcome.

Conversational Hebrew/Advanced | **Varda Hubara, instructor** | **Mondays** | **7:30–8:30 pm**

Students read, write and speak in an effort to perfect their fluency and excitement for using Hebrew in practice. A great place to enhance your knowledge and spend an hour conversing in Hebrew with fellow congregants. Newcomers welcome.

The Sacred Theater "What Are We Acting Out During the Prayer Service?"

Rabbi Michael Graetz, instructor | **Mondays** | **7:30–8:30 pm**

Prayer includes ritual expression, and ritual usually includes prayer. Ritual has been described as the “sacred theater” of prayer in which events of the past are relived, and the future is felt. In this course we will explore the rituals associated with the prayer services, with a view of seeing the prayer texts as scripts and each of us as players in Jewish “sacred theater.” We will learn about when and why do we bow, step forward or backward, raise our glance or lower it? We will address all of these questions and more, and put them all in the context of the development of Jewish prayers and prayer services.

Hebrew Texts for Hebrew Speakers | **Rabbi Michael Graetz, instructor** | **Mondays** | **6:30–7:30 pm**

The study of Hebrew texts is pitched for Hebrew speakers [Israelis and others fluent in Hebrew] who want an intimate environment to read and discuss topical Hebrew texts and essays with other fluent members of our community.

\$ ☺ Registration required. \$50/member; \$75/non member per trimester. All Classes will take place Mondays. The first trimester—Trimester 1 (*Fall*)—is October 27; November 3, 10, 17, 24; December 1, 8, 15. To register, contact Sarah Gribetz at sgribetz@pasyn.org or ext. 142.

When one loves *tzedakah* and justice, the earth is filled with God's loving-kindness. —Psalm 33:5

Cantor Abramson's Discretionary Fund

Richard, Barbara & Nadav Hirsh, *in honor of the appointment of Marga Hirsch as the Park Avenue Synagogue Librarian.*

Bible Fund

Ronnie & David Parker, *in honor of David's birthday.*

Bikur Cholim Fund

Marian Eines, *in memory of Richard Kahn, husband of Barbara Kahn, longtime friend of the Department of Musical Instruments at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.*

Sarah I. Gelman Memorial Fund

Evelyn Gelman, *in memory of her beloved father-in-law Abraham Gelman.*

Hesed Fund

Carol & Robert P. Antler, *in honor of their wedding anniversary.*

High School Food Pantry

Louis B. Bernstein, *in honor of his High Holiday Aliyah.*
Robert Ceisler, *in memory of his beloved mother Elizabeth Ceisler.*
Carol Cohen.
Florence and Karen Lapidus, *in memory of Tom Netzel.*
Laurie Ferber Podolsky, *in honor of her birthday.*
Susan, Jeffrey, Sam, Adam & Jeremy Silverman, *in honor of Ivan Lustig on his birthday.*
Susan, Jeffrey, Sam, Adam & Jeremy Silverman, *in honor of the engagement of Amy & Robert Bressman's son William to Lindsay.*
Henry Vogelstein, *in memory of his beloved brother Charles Vogelstein.*

Library Fund

Connie Cohen *in memory of her husband, Richard W. Cohen.*
Dr. Aaron & Zina Stern.

Liturgical Music Fund

Babette Balis, *in memory of her beloved mother Julia Hoexter.*
Elaine, Eric & Elliot Balis, *in memory of their beloved nanny Julia.*
Janet Moss.

Nursery School Fund

Robert Hougie & Michelle Brilliant, *in honor of Carol Hendin and the teachers.*

Prayer Book Fund

Harris Amster, *in honor of his birthday, and in loving memory of Fred & Anna Amster.*
Morton & Joanne Davis, *in honor of their anniversary.*
Robert & Jacqueline Willens, *in memory of Bernice Zwanger.*

Welfare Fund

Patricia Fuchs, *in memory of her beloved brother Leonard Prashker.*
Patricia Fuchs.
Dr. Samuel Katz, *in honor of his Aliyah for his birthday.*

Synagogue Offerings

Dr. John Abroon, *in memory of his beloved grandfather Shemoel Bemhuri.*
Dr. Jean Pakter Bachman, *in memory of her beloved mother-in-law Rose Bachman.*
Joe & Harriet Berenter, *in honor of Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove's installation on September 17th.*
Ernestine Bernstein, *in memory of her beloved husband Arthur Harold Bernstein.*
Constance Breslin, *in memory of her beloved sister Susan Lane Montessarchio.*
Constance Breslin, *in memory of her beloved mother Carol Lane.*
Katherine Chavkin, *in memory of her beloved mother Janet Showe.*
Carol Cohen, *in memory of her beloved mother Estelle Yavers.*
Carol H. Cohen, *in memory of her beloved mother Evelyn Herman.*

Caren & Arturo Constantiner, *in memory of Teodoro Constantiner.*
Arturo & Caren Constantiner, *in honor of their anniversary.*
Barbara & Samuel A. Cooper, *in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Jordana Cooper, and the 80th birthday of Samuel A. Cooper.*
Dr. Franklin Z. Davidson, *in honor of and in memory of Mrs. Hilda Davidson.*
Peter B. Derfner.
Dr. Juliet Diller, *in memory of her beloved father Meyer Cooper.*
Irene Eisenberg, *in memory of her beloved father Samuel Gershenson.*
Irene Eisenberg, *in memory of her beloved husband Alex Eisenberg.*
Kenneth Ellis, *in memory of his beloved wife Phyllis Ellis.*
Edgar Freitag, *in memory of his beloved mother Peggy Freitag.*
Sarah Gelber.
Marshall Gluck, *in memory of his beloved wife Ruth R. Gluck.*
Ernest Gottschalk, *in memory of his beloved mother and father Ida and Emil Gottschalk.*
Naomi Nicki Gray, *in memory of Richard Kahn.*
Michelle Harman, *in memory of her beloved mother Esther Copelon.*
Dr. David Helfgott, *in memory of his beloved father Howard Helfgott.*
Leon Heller, *in memory of his beloved sister Florence Eunice Rampil.*
Lewis Honig, *in memory of his beloved father Benjamin Honig.*
Dr. Michael I. Jacobs.
Carol Judelson, *in honor of Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove.*
Helen Judlowe, *in memory of her beloved mother Evelyn Lautenberg.*
Sylvia Kalnite, *in memory of her beloved cousin Ruth Feinberg.*
Dr. Neal Kaplan, *in honor of his birthday.*
Mark Kirsch, *in memory of his beloved grandmother Sylvia Tejw.*
Dorothy Ann Kirsch, *in honor of her birthday.*
Tamara Kornstein, *in honor of her birthday.*
Jane Kreinik, *in memory of her beloved father Dennis Berman.*
Stanley Kreinik, *in memory of his beloved mother Helen Zinn Kreinik.*
Joan Levine Levenson, *in memory of her beloved father Nathan Levine.*
Alan & Alison Levine, *in honor of their anniversary.*
David Levitan, *in memory of his beloved father Shlomo Yehuda Levitan.*
Miriam London, *in memory of her beloved husband Burton L. London.*
Joseph & Brigitte Lonner, *in honor of their anniversary.*
Steven Mandelsberg, *in memory of his beloved father Benjamin Mandelsberg.*
Sheila Miller, *in honor of her birthday.*
Janet Moss, *in memory of her beloved father Dr. Oscar Wald.*
Stanley Nasberg, *in memory of his beloved father Abram David Nasberg.*
Richard Newman, *in memory of Richard S. Kahn.*
Morris Orden, *in memory of his beloved grandfather Morris King.*
Morris Orden, *in memory of his beloved wife Patricia Orden.*
Dr. Morris M. Podolsky, *in memory of his beloved father Dr. Harold M. Podolsky.*
Myra Pollack, *in memory of her beloved father Daniel Kohn.*
Joan Rosen, *in memory of her beloved sister Barbara Applebaum.*
Sidney D. Rosoff, *in memory of his mother Fay Fischer Rosoff, his father Charles Rosoff, and his sister Roslyn Rosoff.*
Leo Silverstein, *in honor of his birthday.*
Robert Silverstone, *in honor of his birthday.*
Jacqueline Simmon, *in memory of her beloved father Meyer Greif.*
Florence Solomon, *in memory of her beloved husband, Dr. Nathan A. Solomon.*
David & Carol Steinbach, *in honor of Rabbi Cosgrove's installation.*
Pamela Summey, *in memory of Richard Kahn, husband of Barbara Kahn, our treasured longtime volunteer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.*
Michael Taubin, *in memory of his beloved father Skee Taubin.*
Roxana & Bob Tetenbaum, *in memory of Teodoro Constantiner, brother of Dr. Arturo Constantiner.*
Marshall Tycher, *in memory of his beloved father Frederick Z. Tycher.*
Sally Tycher, *in memory of her beloved father Bernard Kushner.*
Henry & Susan Vogelstein, *in honor of Rabbi Cosgrove's installation.*
Jacqueline Wahl, *in honor of her Rosh Hashanah honor.*
Selma Weintraub, *in memory of her beloved husband Morris "Tiny" Weintraub.*
Eugene Zinbarg, *in honor of his birthday.*

Holiday Programming: Hanukkah

This Sunday is set aside to offer multiple events for family members of all ages—from hands-on art workshops, to performances and text study with our rabbis. Gain new insights and create new rituals for our oldest traditions.

Hanukkah Family Art Workshop

Ellen Alt and Sarah Gribetz, instructors

Sunday, December 7 | 10:00 am–12:00 pm

Help create our holiday lobby installation. Everyone—of all ages—is invited. Be prepared to get your hands dirty.

"Mai Hanukkah?" What is Hanukkah?

Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove, instructor

Sunday, December 7 | 10:00–10:45 am

Join Rabbi Cosgrove to explore Hanukkah history and meaning in rabbinic literature. How has the message of Hanukkah transformed over time and what is its relevance for Jewry today?

A Look at the Books of the Maccabees

Rabbi Michael Graetz, instructor

Sunday, December 7 | 11:15 am–12:00 pm

How did the Jews at the time of the Maccabees in the succeeding few generations view the events that happened to them? We will discover viewpoints and experiences of Jews from that time. Among other things we may answer the question: "Why is kindling lamps the central ritual of Hanukkah?"

Hanukkah Musicale | Sunday, December 7 | 12:30 pm

Featuring Cantors Lefkowitz and Abramson, the Congregational Singers and Manhattan HaZamir, the Jewish teen choir.

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove, Ph.D. Installed As Senior Rabbi *continued from page 11*

Rabbi Cosgrove's inspiring Installation Address drew from the prayer that accompanied this transmission of Torah ceremony: "*Hashivenu adonai eleicha v'nashuva, hadesh yameinu kekedem.*" "Return us Lord unto You, and we shall return. Renew our days as of old." (Lamentations 5:21) Rabbi Cosgrove said, "These words, chanted so beautifully by our cantors, recited at the conclusion of every Torah service as our most sacred text is returned to the ark, direct the hearts and minds of our community to our sacred charge: To return to God by way of Torah, a return that brings with it the promise of renewal. At this moment, as I stand in the place of such pulpit giants as Milton Steinberg, Judah Nadich and David Lincoln, following them as Rabbi to this distinguished congregation, I am deeply mindful of these words. They are my prayer to God to guide me in the way on which I now set out."

A closing prayer by Rabbi Michael Siegel of Anshet Emet Synagogue in Chicago was followed by Rabbi Cosgrove's moving Benediction, which included the participation of his parents, Dr. Malcolm and Gabrielle Cosgrove; his wife Deborah; the offspring of his rabbinical predecessors – Dr. David Steinberg, son of Rabbi Milton Steinberg, z"l; and Leah Nadich Meir and Shira Nadich Levin, daughters of Rabbi Judah Nadich, z"l; his mentor Rabbi

Carol Levithan; President Brian Lustbader; Executive Director Beryl Chernov; and students of the B'nai Mitzvah classes of 5768, 5769, and 5770 representing the vibrant future. The ceremony concluded with the entire congregation joining in the *Sheheyanu*, expressing gratitude and joy in reaching this extraordinary milestone.

Rabbi Cosgrove's Installation Address described "the ideals that will form the basis of my work as Rabbi to this Synagogue—the ideal of the passionate return to our Jewish tradition, and the ideal of unflinching courage to transmit that tradition in a way that it becomes a renewed force for Jewish living, relevant and compelling to the spiritual strivings of Jews in the world today." He said, "It is my hope and prayer that Park Avenue Synagogue will, as it has with my predecessors, continue to be a full participant in a cross-communal dialogue on what it means to be a "person of faith" in the world today."

Rabbi Cosgrove took note of the three stages by which a modern person traverses a life of faith: "We begin with the first naïveté, the uncritical acceptance of the traditional worldview—as literally and unreflectively true, for Jews—a state of innocence regarding God, Torah and ritual observance. The second stage is that of reflection and critique, some may call it enlightenment. This is the moment when one is exposed to all the counterclaims, in-



tellectually, culturally and otherwise that would lead to the undermining and collapse of the first naïveté. Our final stage, the second naïveté, signals a move back to our original state—except that this time, we actively integrate the claims of our engagement with critical thought and modernity. This stage is not to be confused with nostalgia, for we do not seek to return to our original innocence. Having left the Garden we can not, nor do we want to return as we were. We seek a new religious posture, open to the presence of God and the transcendent claims of text and tradition, yet fully aware of the road we have traveled. My goal as your Rabbi is to work with you to construct a language and life of faith that enables you to lay claim to your spiritual inheritance, but do so in full awareness of the road you have and are traveling."

Please note: you can read the full transcript of Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove's speech at our website: pasyn.org. From the home page, go to "Rabbi Cosgrove's sermon," where you can find all of his Shabbat sermons and the Installation address and additional photographs from the event.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>2</div> <div>Cheshvan 4</div> <div>  <p>7:00 pm Voices of our People Concert \$ 6</p> </div>	<div>3</div> <div>Cheshvan 5</div> <div> <p>6:30 pm Siddur Hebrew I 6:30 pm Conv. Hebrew II 6:30 pm Siddur Hebrew II 6:30 pm Hebrew Texts 7:30 pm Conv. Hebrew I 7:30 pm Conv. Hebrew II 7:30 pm Sacred Theater 7:30 pm WEG Board</p> </div>	<div>4</div> <div>Cheshvan 6 Election Day</div> <div> <p>ECC Parent Conferences No ECC School except Orange No CS 8:00 am Essential Essays 11:00 am Jewish Thought 6:30 pm The Book of Genesis 7:30 pm Women in the Bible</p> </div>	<div>5</div> <div>Cheshvan 7</div> <div> <p>10:30 am Parenting Workshop 6:30 pm Town Hall/CS Parents</p> </div>	<div>6</div> <div>Cheshvan 8</div> <div> <p>8:00 am Jewish Text 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn 12:30 pm Can Israel Survive Judaism?</p> </div>	<div>7</div> <div>Cheshvan 9 Candle lighting: 4:27 pm</div> <div> <p>5:15 pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat 6:15 pm Friday Night Special Musical Shabbat Service 7:15 pm Shabbat Dinner and speaker/A Historian's View of Election 2008 \$ 6</p> </div>	<div>8</div> <div>Cheshvan 10 Parashat Lech-Lecha</div> <div> <p>9:15 am Sanctuary Service 10:15 am Jr. Congregation 10:15 am Pre-K Shabbat Service 10:15 am Nitzanin Service 5:50 pm Mincha</p> </div>
<div>9</div> <div>Cheshvan 11</div> <div> <p>11:00 am Kadima Program 11:00 am Ruach Program 4:00 pm Rosh Chodesh "It's a Girl Thing"</p> </div>	<div>10</div> <div>Cheshvan 12</div> <div> <p>10:00 am Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique 11:00 am Sisterhood Discussion 6:00 pm ECC Parent Conf. 6:30 pm Siddur Hebrew I 6:30 pm Conv. Hebrew II 6:30 pm Siddur Hebrew II 6:30 pm Hebrew Texts 7:30 pm Conv. Hebrew I 7:30 pm Conv. Hebrew II 7:30 pm Sacred Theater 7:30 pm Sacred Theater</p> </div>	<div>11</div> <div>Cheshvan 13 Veterans Day</div> <div> <p>8:00 am Essential Essays 10:00 am Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique 11:00 am Jewish Thought 1:00 pm Sisterhood Yiddish Club 6:30 pm The Book of Genesis 7:30 pm Women in the Bible</p> </div>	<div>12</div> <div>Cheshvan 14</div> <div> <p>10:00 am Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique 10:30 am Parenting Workshop 6:00 pm HS conversation with Ernest W. Michel 7:15 pm Kristallnacht Commemoration</p> </div>	<div>13</div> <div>Cheshvan 15</div> <div> <p>8:00 am Jewish Text 10:00 am Book Fair and Hanukkah Boutique 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn 12:30 pm Can Israel Survive Judaism? 1:00 pm Sisterhood Museum Visit</p> </div>	<div>14</div> <div>Cheshvan 16 Candle lighting: 4:20 pm</div> <div> <p>6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service CS Service and Dinner</p> </div>	<div>15</div> <div>Cheshvan 17 Parashat Vayera</div> <div> <p>9:15 am Sanctuary Service 9:30 am Havurah Service 10:00 am Shabbat B'yachad 4:35 pm Mincha 5:00 pm Pajama Havdalah</p> </div>
<div>16</div> <div>Cheshvan 18</div> <div> <p>11:00 am Kadima Program 11:00 am Ruach Program 4:00 pm Rosh Chodesh "It's a Girl Thing"</p> </div>	<div>17</div> <div>Cheshvan 19</div> <div> <p>6:30 pm Siddur Hebrew I 6:30 pm Conv. Hebrew II 6:30 pm Siddur Hebrew II 6:30 pm Hebrew Texts 7:30 pm Conv. Hebrew I 7:30 pm Conv. Hebrew II 7:30 pm Sacred Theater</p> </div>	<div>18</div> <div>Cheshvan 20</div> <div> <p>8:00 am Essential Essays 11:00 am Jewish Thought 6:30 pm The Book of Genesis 7:30 pm Women in the Bible 7:30 pm WEG Book Talk</p> </div>	<div>19</div> <div>Cheshvan 21</div> <div> <p>Mitzvah Day Clothing Collection 8:00 am Jewish Text 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn 12:30 pm Can Israel Survive Judaism? 6:30 pm Gallery Opening Reception 7:30 pm WEG Meet author Lisa Kogan</p> </div>	<div>20</div> <div>Cheshvan 22</div> <div> <p>Mitzvah Day Clothing Collection 8:00 am Jewish Text 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn 12:30 pm Can Israel Survive Judaism? 6:30 pm Gallery Opening Reception 7:30 pm WEG Meet author Lisa Kogan</p> </div>	<div>21</div> <div>Cheshvan 23 Candle lighting: 4:15 pm</div> <div> <p>Mitzvah Day Clothing Collection 6:15 pm Friday Night Special Musical Shabbat Service Children's Birthday Service</p> </div>	<div>22</div> <div>Cheshvan 24 Parashat Chayei Sara</div> <div> <p>9:15 am Sanctuary Service 9:30 am Havurah Service 10:00 am Shabbat B'yachad 4:35 pm Mincha 5:00 pm Pajama Havdalah</p> </div>
<div>23</div> <div>Cheshvan 25 Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day</div> <div> <p>11:00 am Kadima Program 11:00 am Ruach Program 4:00 pm Rosh Chodesh "It's a Girl Thing"</p> </div>	<div>24</div> <div>Cheshvan 26</div> <div> <p>6:30 pm Siddur Hebrew I 6:30 pm Conv. Hebrew II 6:30 pm Siddur Hebrew II 6:30 pm Hebrew Texts 7:30 pm Conv. Hebrew I 7:30 pm Conv. Hebrew II 7:30 pm Sacred Theater 8:00 pm Book Discussion Group</p> </div>	<div>25</div> <div>Cheshvan 27</div> <div> <p>8:00 am Essential Essays 11:00 am Jewish Thought 1:00 pm Sisterhood 6:30 pm The Book of Genesis 7:30 pm Women in the Bible</p> </div>	<div>26</div> <div>Cheshvan 28</div> <div> <p>No School 1:00 pm Office Closes</p> </div>	<div>27</div> <div>Cheshvan 29 Thanksgiving</div> <div> <p>Offices Closed No School</p> </div>	<div>28</div> <div>Kislev 1 Rosh Chodesh Kislev Candle lighting: 4:12 pm</div> <div> <p>6:15 pm Friday Evening Service</p> </div>	<div>29</div> <div>Kislev 2 Parashat Toldot</div> <div> <p>No CS 9:15 am Sanctuary Service College Service 4:30 pm Mincha</p> </div>
<div>30</div> <div>Kislev 3</div> <div></div>						



Park Avenue Synagogue ק"ק אגודת ישראל

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Elliot J. Cosgrove, Ph.D., Senior Rabbi

Michael J. Graetz, Interim Rabbi

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David Lefkowitz, Senior Cantor

Nancy Abramson, Cantor

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Patricia Rich, P.A.S. Bulletin Editor

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Sign up for our e-mail list and find out everything that is going on at Park Avenue Synagogue.
You'll get regular updates of services and events; notification of changes, and news about your congregation.

Just send an e-mail to Lynn Schneider, at lschneider@pasyn.org, and she will take care of everything.

A Look Ahead

Sunday, December 7 | Special Hanukkah Programming | See Page 18.

Wednesday, December 10 | 7:30 pm | YCG "Latke & Vodka" Party | See Page 9.

January 23–24, 2009 | Annual Shabbaton

Theme: *"The Presidency, the Jews and the National Interest: Integral Parts of the American Mosaic"*

Keynote speaker: **Robert Dallek**, noted Presidential Historian

Guest speakers: **Jay Footlick and Noam Neusner**, former White House Jewish Liaisons

Guest Musician: **Josh Nelson**

Saturday, February 28, 2009 | P.A.S. Gala

7:30 pm Cocktails | 8:30 pm Dinner Dance | *The Starlight Roof, The Waldorf Astoria Hotel*

Honoring past Chairman Amy A.B. Bressman and Celebrating our Community. It is not too late for you to join the Gala Committee—have fun and be part of the party action.

Contact Marcia Eppler Colvin, at mecolvin@aol.com or 1-917-923-2436; or Lynn Halbfinger, at lnhalb@aol.com;

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